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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1 SECRET 25X1

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Riots in the East Zone	DATE DISTR.	22 June 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	1
DATE OF INFO.	25X1	REQUIREMENT NO.	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	BY CABLE 25X1

1. In connection with the riots in East Berlin, disturbances or strikes were also reported to have taken place in Brandenburg/Havel, Rathenow, Wismar, and Schwerin. In the latter, a general strike was in existence on 17 June. Military law was proclaimed and several deaths resulted after the commitment of Soviet armored and Volkspolizei troops. Strikes by dockworkers also took place in Rostock and Wismar. Ten 57 mm AT guns were rushed to Wismar from Poel Island while five Seepolizei boats patrolled the harbor.

2. The Wittenberge railroad station was occupied by Volkspolizei troops at 11:30 P.M. on 17 June. Seventeen T-34 tanks and Soviet troops with full field equipment were also seen in the city. Twelve JS-3 tanks and trucks occupied by soldiers were seen on the Heerstrasse in Staaken, enroute to Berlin. Intensive flying activity by transport planes was observed at Staaken airfield.

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STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI		AEC					
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SECRET/ [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted] 25X1

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	[redacted]
SUBJECT	Berlin Situation	DATE DISTR.	22 June 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	[redacted] 25X1	REQUIREMENT NO.	[redacted] 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[redacted]	REFERENCES	BY CARLF 25X1

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1. KVP troops replaced the regular Volkspolizei at most locations in Berlin on 18 and 19 June. Several hundred Soviet troops were stationed at Schloss Bellevue on the banks of the Spree. Numerous East Berlin plants had resumed operation. Civilian supplies were normal except in the center of the city. A small riot took place at 5 P.M. on 18 June and 500 demonstrators were dispersed by the Volkspolizei in Treptow. No Soviet troops participated in these actions, although special Soviet anti-riot units were still maneuvering at the Brandenburger Tor, Stettiner Bahnhof and Alexanderplatz. The Koenigswusterhausen - Berlin and Erkner - Berlin S-Bahn lines were partially in operation on 19 June.

2. Many Soviet officers stationed at Karlshorst were packing their personal effects.

3. Contrary to the statement of Soviet military authorities that East Berliners marooned in West Berlin would be allowed to return to their homes via the Prinzenstrasse, Invalidenstrasse and Brunnerstrasse crossing points, Inspection of these points showed that they were still closed as of 5 P.M. on 19 June. While the West Berlin police permitted the possessors of East Berlin and East Zone identification cards to cross, they were being turned back by Soviet and Volkspolizei troops. Contrary to press reports, the crossing points at Stresemannstrasse, Leipsigerstrasse and Eberstrasse were also found to be still closed. Some of the crossing points between West Berlin and the Soviet Zone were open but under close control. On several locations on the zonal border Soviet troops had been replaced by Volkspolizei.

4. At 9 A.M. on 19 June the West Berlin - Soviet Zone cross-over points at Dueppel and Potsdam (Glienicke Bruecke) were open to pedestrians bearing DDR documents showing residence in the East Zone. They were closed, however, to residents of East Berlin and to others.

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5. According to observations made between 12 A.M. and 4 P.M. on 19 June, the sector boundary guard between Wilhelmsruh and Wilhelmstrasse had been strengthened since 18 June by additional Soviet troops.

6. Train traffic between East Berlin and the Soviet Zone had not yet been resumed on 19 June. Streetcar, bus and S-Bahn lines in East Berlin, however, have been operating with interruptions since 5 A.M. on 19 June. A local train between Potsdam and the Ost Bahnhof in East Berlin was also running.

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